

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 22 with the following replacement paragraph:

-- The loaded waste water is preheated in the heat exchanger E1 with the residual heat of the waste water drawn off from the column sump C8. It is brought by the pump P2 to the hydrolysis pressure, ie the pressure at which the thermal degradation is to be operated. In the counter flow heat exchanger E3 it is preheated practically to the reaction temperature with the heat of the water flowing down from the hydrolyser R5. The heat exchanger E4 serves for starting up the plant and for compensating the radiation and heat exchange losses. In the heated hydrolyser R5 the chemical reactions to ammonia and carbon dioxide take place at reaction pressure and reaction temperature. The pH value thereby drops. Reaction heat and steam losses are supplied through the heat register in the hydrolyser R5. The pressure in the hydrolyser R5 is regulated through the relief valve V7. The steam is supplied to the column C8. The filling level in the hydrolyser R5 is regulated through the relief valve ~~V8~~ V6 after the outflow has given off its heat in the counter flow heat exchanger ~~E32~~ E3 to the supply current. Thus apart from the vapour losses minimal heat losses arise, the same pressure, reaction pressure, prevails on both sides of the heat exchanger, and at the fluid relief valve V6 there is no resulting partial evaporation. --